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X-2 BRANCH
OFFICE OF STRATEGIC SERVICES
APO 887 - USA

DECLASSIFIED AND RELEASED BY
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
SOURCES METHODS EXEMPTION 3B2B
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
DATE 2001 2008

10 November 1944

SUBJECT: Custody of NEBEL, Ludwig and ZEILER, Maurice
by SCI-Paris

TO: Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2,
HQ. 7th U.S. Army,
APO 758,
Attn: Chief, CIB

REFERENCE: NEBEL, Ludwig & HAAS, Carl & NEUMANN, Leon
and ZEILER, Maurice & FONTANIER, Jean Louis.

1. Subjects were arrested separately by 307th CIC Detachment, 36th Division on or about 1 November 1944 and under separate preliminary interrogation by CIC, 7th U.S. Army, admitted having crossed U. S. Military lines on espionage and sabotage missions for the German SD.

2. Accordingly, they were transferred to Paris Interrogation Center, 18 Blvd. Suchet, Paris on 7 November 1944 for detailed interrogation by SCI on espionage, and by Lord ROTHSCHILD (M.I.5) on sabotage.

3. SCI was advised, however, that the two agents would have to be returned to jurisdiction of 7th U. S. Army within three days (i.e. by 10 November) for trial and possible execution.

4. SCI-Paris interrogation, supported by detailed 307th CIC Detachment preliminary interrogation, quickly disclosed that NEBEL in particular is an SD agent of rare importance, fully trained in sabotage, well acquainted with both officials and operations of the SD, and also briefed to contact a large stay-behind SD espionage network in France.

5. In view of the immediate need to exploit the capture of NEBEL and ZEILER by utilizing them to identify and thus help destroy the entire SD network, SCI-Paris requested from Chief, CIB, G-2, Supreme Headquarters, Allied Expeditionary Force, permission to retain NEBEL and ZEILER in Paris for the duration of this operation. This permission was given verbally.

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6. Colonel SHEIN has forwarded thru channels a telegram requesting concurrence in such action. In the meanwhile immediate exploitation of the NEBEL-ZELLER case will commence and counter-espionage intelligence obtained therefrom will be forwarded direct to SCI Liaison Officer, CIB, G-2, HQ 7th U.S. Army.

FOR THE BRANCH CHIEF:

Franklin P. Holcomb, Jr.
Major, USMC
Commanding Officer
SCI-France.

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